(b) This is a joint venture between the Indian Railways and the Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation (KSTDC). The proposed itinerary of the train is as below:

Bangalore-Mysore-Hassan-Hospet-Hubli-Dandeli-Goa-Bangalore

No timeframe has been set for launching of the above train.

Frequency of Rajdhani Express to Ranchi

1907. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase frequency of Rajdhani Express train to Ranchi;

(b) the reason for which Government are not increasing its frequency to daily; and

(c) whether there is any plan to start more trains from Ranchi to other metros?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, an additional Rajdhani service between New Delhi and Ranchi *via* Daltonganj-Barkakana has been introduced from 11.06.2006 making tri-weekly Rajdhani service between New Delhi and Ranchi. Daily Rajdhani service between Delhi and Ranchi is not feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

(c) No, Sir. However, it is proposed to introduce Ajmer-Ranchi Garib Nawaj Express *via* Varanasi (weekly) as announced in Rail Budget 2006-07.

Connecting Hazira Port to its Hinterland

1908. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration for connecting Hazira Port to its Hinterland;

(b) if so, whether Government would consider to extend the side track for KRIBHCO upto Hazira; and

(c) the time bound programme for completion of the project, if any?